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NSC BRIEFING

11 August 1960

IRAN

- I. Open rigging of the elections to the Iranian parliament--now in progress--will almost certainly weaken the regime.
  - A. The Shah, although publicly promising free elections, is trying to assure that the pro-government party of Premier Eqbal wins.
  - B. Disorders which have been reported in several provinces suggest that strong security measures will be necessary to prevent possible riots when the still unscheduled elections are held in volatile Tehran. Elections in Tehran will have to be held by early October if parliament is to open on schedule.
  - C. Security forces appear capable of controlling demonstrations but riots could develop as they did in South Korea last April if disaffection spreads to the army or police.

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